FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

13 DECEMBER 1983

Kuwait Bombings

Aftermath — Kuwaiti Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn, cited by KUNA, placed the total number of victims in the seven bombings in Kuwait on 12 December at 4 dead and 62 injured. Summarizing reports on the explosions, KUNA noted that the first bomb, which was at the U.S. Embassy, was the only suicide attack. A truck loaded with explosives was driven at high speed through the embassy gate and into the embassy building, where it exploded. The driver was apparently not killed and was captured, the agency said, while the building eventually collapsed. The agency added that the car bomb that exploded at the airport damaged the communications center and control tower and killed one and injured several others, while the car bomb at the French Embassy badly damaged the consulate building but only injured three. Similar car bombs exploded outside buildings housing Americans in two suburbs, causing slight damage but no casualties, while another car bomb exploded near the Ash-Shu'aybah oil installation, injuring 10 people, but did not affect operations, the agency stated. KUNA also confirmed earlier reports that another bomb was discovered and defused before it exploded near a government passport office.

A Kuwaiti security official cited by KUNA announced that some suspects had been captured, while all involved "will soon be rounded up," and observed that the explosions all used a common device. Crown Prince Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah condemned the attacks and promised to take the "strictest and toughest measures" against the "criminals and culprits" and to "purge the country of all suspicious elements," KUNA reported.

Reaction — Iraq will "strike militarily against selected Iranian targets" in retaliation for "Iran's heinous crime" against Kuwait, a military spokesman declared in a statement to INA. In addition to Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain, the UAE, and the YAR all sent messages of support, KUNA stated, while SPA, WAKH, Baghdad radio, and San'a' radio each reported their government's statement condemning the blasts. The GCC "condemned and denounced" the explosions, SPA announced, and the organization's Secretariat General began "intensive contacts" among the member states aimed at agreeing on "unified Gulf action to confront such incidents," WAKH divulged. Elsewhere in the Middle East, Lebanon's Shafiq al-Wazzan "repudiated" the bombings, according to Beirut radio, while the Egyptian ambassador in Kuwait was reported by MENA as denouncing such "terrorist acts."

PLO Affairs

The PLO has received a guarantee from Syria and Saudi Arabia that forces loyal to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will be able to leave Tripoli unharmed and it hopes to begin the evacuation "within the next 48 hours," 'Arafat's spokesman in Tripoli announced on 12 December in remarks reported by ANSA. Meanwhile, a PLO source in Tunis revealed that PLO Political Department chief Faruq Qaddumi will visit Damascus in an attempt to improve Palestinian-Syrian relations, according to KUNA.

As for Israel's opposition to 'Arafat's departure from Tripoli, Defense Minister Moshe Arens said in remarks broadcast by IDF Radio that he hopes Israel "will not have to use force" to prevent the evacuation. It seems incomprehensible that the United Nations and "some Western powers" want to assist the departure of 'Arafat and his "terrorists" from Lebanon so that they can resume terrorist activities elsewhere, Arens contended.

In another development, an official source cited by Beirut radio stated that Tunisia has made no preparations to receive Palestinian fighters from Tripoli. In a statement broadcast by Tunis radio, the Tunisian foreign minister appealed to Syria and the Palestinian dissidents to end their differences with the PLO leadership and break the siege around Tripoli.

Syria

TISHRIN Warning — Syria has the right to defend itself if it is exposed to a new "aggression," and this makes all the U.S. and NATO military forces in Lebanon and the Mediterranean possible targets because they are hostile to Syria, the daily *TISHRIN* declared in a 12 December article reviewed by Damascus radio.

Al-Asad, Internal Situation — President Hafiz al-Asad's health is "good," a presidential spokesman announced in a statement reported by Radio Monte Carlo. Meanwhile, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio claimed that gunfire was heard in Damascus on 12 December and that Syrian authorities imposed stringent security measures in the capital.

Lebanon

The French Foreign Ministry's secretary general visited Beirut to meet with President Amin al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, Beirut radio reported. The purpose of the visit was not known, but French Embassy sources "suggested" it was connected with "deliberations" on the Lebanese situation. Meanwhile, a source close to Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt announced that the "displaced persons" in the besieged Phalangist-held town of Dayr al-Qamar will be evacuated on 14 December, according to Damascus radio. The source elaborated that the Italian contingent of the Multinational Force will supervise the withdrawal of Phalangist fighters within 24 hours, while the International Red Cross will supervise the evacuation of civilians, which must be completed within 5 days.

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AFP: Rebels Burst Into Communist Party Offices in Herat

BK131118 Hong Kong AFP in English 1020 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] Islamabad, Dec 13 (AFP) — Afghan rebels burst into the local communist party offices in Herat, western Afghanistan, and killed 26 staff on a visit from party headquarters in Kabul last month, a Western diplomat said here today. The diplomat said only four people were spared.

According to the same source about 25 Soviet advisors working in a copper mine in the Logar valley south of Kabul were kidnapped recently by rebels, while in Kabul two bombs were defused at the headquarters of the KHAD, the secret police. One of them was found in the office of the KHAD's chief Doctor Najibullah. Shortly afterwards 50 to 80 agents were arrested on suspicion of collaborating with the resistance movement.

None of this information has been confirmed by rebels based in Peshawar.

Western diplomats in Kabul said there was a lull in the fighting in both the capital and the provinces. They believed the rebels were preparing several spectacular operations for next week to mark the fourth anniversary of the Soviet invasion. Rebel circles in Peshawar make no secret of the existence of several well trained groups ready to mount operations in Kabul, as they did last year, notably against the Soviet Embassy.

Stricter security measures introduced in autumn in Kabul have not been eased and there are roadblocks everywhere, with [as received] motorised patrols have been stepped up night and day.

Meanwhile a Soviet offensive launched in the Guldara region on the Shomali plateau north of the capital ended on December 5 after eight days of fierce fighting. Diplomats said the rebels managed to shoot down three helicopters in the course of the offensive, which was intended to relieve rebel pressure on the big Soviet military base at nearby Bagram.

TANJUG Reports 'Heavy Fighting' North of Kabul

LD121843 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1730 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Islamabad, December 12 (TANJUG) — Soviet forces and Kabul government troops are engaged in heavy fighting against insurgents in a valley north of Afghanistan's capital.

According to diplomatic sources here, an offensive against the mujaheddin positions in this part of the country is under way.

The Soviet and government troops are using aircraft, helicopters and tanks in their operations. Both sides are reported to have suffered heavy losses during the fighting, which diplomatic sources here assess as most serious in the past year.

Fierce clashes were also reported recently along the important communication linking Jalalabad and Towrkham, a town on the Afghan-Pakistani border.

Afghan insurgents claim that the Soviet and Kabul government troops have failed to gain full control over this strategically important route, held by the insurgents since December 1.

KABUL NEW TIMES Cited on Western Propaganda

LD131131 Prague CTK in English 1054 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] Kabul [no dateline as received] (CETEKA correspondent) — The escalation of armed pressure by imperialist countries on Afghanistan is accompanied by intensified anti-Afghan propaganda in the bourgeois press and in foreign radio broadcasts, the Afghan daily *KABUL NEW TIMES* said.

The daily mentioned the example of the Voice of America, which in November 1978 broadcast its programs to Afghans ten hours a day, in December 1979 14 hours and in 1980 full 42 [as received] hours.

Workers of Western propaganda institutions undergo special training and their activities are regularly controlled by NATO intelligence organizations. The CIA, for example, controls the broadcasts of 40 stations in various parts of the world, *KABUL NEW TIMES* said.

Briefs

Cuban Publicity Agreement — An agreement of mutual cooperation between the DRA Union of Journalists and the journalist union of Cuba for 1983-1985 was signed today in Kabul. Under the protocol, journalists of both countries will take part in the process of political, economic, social, and cultural improvement and will cooperate in the publicity area. Haydar Masud, head of Afghan radio, television, and cinematography and head of the DRA Union of Journalists, and the Cuban ambassador in Kabul were present at the signing ceremony. [Text] [Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 11 Dec 83 LD]

Reportage on ICO Foreign Ministers Conference

Support for PLO Reaffirmed

BK121535 Dhaka BSS in English 0911 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Dhaka, Dec 12 (BSS) — The 14th Islamic conference of foreign ministers which ended here Sunday reaffirmed the total and unequivocal support of the OIC to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the struggle for the liberation of Palestine from Israeli occupation.

The conference authorised Bangladesh Foreign Minister A.R.S. Shamsud Doha, the current chairman of the Islamic foreign ministers conference, to convey the message of support to the PLO Chief Yasir 'Arafat.

The leader of the PLO delegation to the conference, Mr. Jamal Sourani told after the conference that the Palestinians were inspired by the reiteration of support of the Muslim world to the Palestinian cause.

Debate on Gulf War Deferred

BK121547 Dhaka BSS in English 0913 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Dhaka, Dec 12 (BSS) The just concluded 14th Islamic conference of foreign ministers which debated for hours the Iran-Iran [as received] war has decided to defer the issue to the Islamic summit scheduled in mid-January in Casablanca, Morocco.

A conference source said that earlier a draft resolution on the war was moved by Jordan, Saudi Arabia and some other OIC member states which was opposed by Iran. The Iranian delegation walked out of the committee meeting on political affairs where the draft resolution had come for consideration.

Later, the conference reached a consensus on deferring the issue to the forthcoming Islamic summit in Morocco.

Conference Participants' Interviews, Meetings

Moro Liberation Front Leader

BK091655 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] The leader of the Moro National Liberation Front, Mr Nur Misuari, has called upon the international community in general and the Muslim world in particular to help them realize their right of self-determination and establish a sovereign and independent state of their own in the southern Philippines.

Speaking at a news conference at the media center in Dhaka this afternoon, he said his people are now engaged in a grim battle against forces of (? terror) to the liberation front. He expressed his confidence that with support and [word indistinct] from peace-loving people of the world, they will surely come out triumphant. They have (? the faith that) the Islamic Conference Organization has been mediating to find a negotiated settlement of this problem. It may be mentioned that the Moro National Liberation Front has already been given observer status, and they are attending the current Islamic foreign ministers conference.

AFP Account

BK091723 Hong Kong AFP in English 1548 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Dhaka, Dec 9 (AFP) — The leader of the Moslem separatist Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) in the southern Philippines today ruled out any coordinaton with communist guerrillas in its 16 year-long struggle against President Ferdinand Marcos.

The Tripoli-based MNLF has observer status with the Islamic Conference Organization (ICO), whose foreign ministers are currently meeting here.

MNLF Chairman Nur Misuari, whose group seeks independence for its "homeland" covering 13 Philippine provinces, denied reports of coordination with the National People's Army [NPA], the military wing of the outlawed Philippine Communist Party.

"Up to now there has been no contact with the NPA. We do not have any coordination. We do not sanction that," the bearded 43-year-old MNLF leader said.

The MNLF, which claims to field more than 30,000 men, has been opposing the Manila government since late 1968, and an intermittent war has been underway in the southern Philippines since Mr. Marcos declared martial law in 1972.

During a 90-minute talk with newsmen, Mr. Misuari said as a result of the political and economic crisis spawned by the August 21 assassination of Filipino opposition leader Benigno Aquino, he was "now certain that the Marcos regime is going to collapse."

"It is only a matter of time," he said thumping the lectern.

He added that because of the crisis many government troops had been withdrawn from the south and sent to Luzon. The MNLF was profiting from this to "consolidate its revolutionary gains and strengthen its military posture.

He noted that after the Marcos regime had gone he was "optimistic that problems in the south could be expeditiously solved," adding that the Moro republic which the MNLF wanted to set up would be the home of 13 million Moslems.

Mr Misuari indicated said that most Filipino opposition parties had already delcared their recognition and support for "our right to independence."

But if, once in power, the opposition parties did not implement their policies, "then the war goes on," he said.

Mr. Misuari, whose movement is getting support from the ICO and humanitarian aid from the ICO's Islamic solidarity fund, refused to identify its backers in the Moslem world.

Mediation efforts of Islamic states led to the MNLF and the Marcos government to sign the 1976 Tripoli agreement which should have led to autonomy for 13 provinces, or 60 percent of the area which the MNLF claims as its "homeland."

But Mr. Misuari said the Tripoli accord was no longer valid and had been renounced by the Marcos government in 1980.

Observers here saw his remarks ruling out coordination with the NPA as significant as there have been insistent reports of such coordination on the battlefield.

Mr. Misuari noted the NPA's strength in the Visayas and Luzon areas and added that the NPA had opened up "war in MNLF areas without telling us of their activities."

He maintained that in fighting recently reported from Davao in eastern Mindanao, seen as an NPA stronghold, NPA forces had "intruded into the area of our general headquarters." Later the NPA forces had staged a tactical retreat and left the MNLF camp encircled.

Mr. Misuari described Mr. Aquino as a "patriot" and condemned his assassination. Mr. Aquino had met twice with Mr. Misuari outside the Philippines in a bid to get a better understanding of the MNLF movement, observers recalled.

Mr. Misuari claimed that there had been a plot to assassinate him when he was asked to attend talks with the Marcos government in Manila in April 1977.

"If I had joined the talks the bullet that was fired on Aquino would have been directed at me first," he said.

Questioned about the MNLF faction led by Walamao Hashim which surrendered to the Marcos government after negotiations in 1980, Mr. Misuari said that the MNF would not take Mr. Hashim back.

"We have been purged of dirty men, he was a very dangerous man, a traitor. How can we accept a traitor like him," Mr. Misuari said.

Turkish-Cypriot's Atakol

BK100907 Dhaka BSS in English 0615 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] Dhaka Dec 10 BSS — Turkish-Cypriot Foreign and Defense Minister Kenan Atakol expressed confidence that the Islamic countries would give recognition to his newly declared independent country to protect its honour, dignity and independence.

In an interview with the national news agency BSS yesterday the Turkish Cypriot leader said, we are on the right side, have not done anything wrong, only took back our rights, which was violated in planned manner by the majority Greek Cypriots in the Mediterrean island that won independence from Britain in 1960. [as received]

Mr. Atakol is leading his community as an observer in the current 14th Islamic foreign ministers conference, dwelt at length on the logic and circumstances leading to their unilateral declaration of independence in the middle of last month. [as received]

The Turkish Cypriot community leader, however, said the declaration of independence did not foreclose the scope of meaningful negotiations with the Greek-Cypriots to work out a loose federation with wider autonomy under a new arrangements [as received]. He, of course, ruled out the possibility of returning to the 1960 agreement for it failed to work and added that no new arrangement would be acceptable to us without Turkish guarantee to defend our security.

Answering to a question, Mr. Atakol said his community would soon send a high powered delegation to different Muslim countries to mobilize support to their cause.

Addressing the conference, the Turkish Cypriot leader said that the need for Islamic unity and solidarity was now greater than ever before. Our Muslim brethern all across the world are being oppressed, persecuted and even subjected to massacre. The world of Islam should not remain indifferent.

Yaqub Khan Meetings

BK101055 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan met in Dhaka today with his counterparts from Guinea, Mali, and Morocco.

Pakistan has close relations with Guinea, and trade between the two countries is constantly growing; they have already signed a shipping agreement. Guinea's foreign minister expressed his country's desire that the president of Pakistan visit Guinea. Guinea President Sekou Toure has made three visits to Pakistan. The Guinea foreign minister has expressed his country's desire to further expand its trade and cultural relations with Pakistan.

During his meeting with Mali's foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said Pakistan wants to further develop its relations with Mali. He announced that Pakistan's ambassador in Senegal will also concurrently discharge his duties as ambassador to Mali. Pakistan, he said, would help the Islamic university at Timbuktu for the spread of Islam. Pakistan will also assist in the Islamic Conference Organization's measures in the drought-affected areas in Sahel.

The Pakistan and Moroccan foreign ministers had their first meeting since the latter's appointment to his post. Sahbzada Yaqub Khan said the president of Pakistan is looking forward to attending the Islamic summit conference and meeting with King Hassan. The Moroccan foreign minister informed Sahabzada Yaqub Khan that the Islamic foreign ministers will meet in Rabat from 11 to 14 January. This meeting will be followed by the summit conference in Casablanca from 16 to 18 January.

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan had informal contacts with Bangladesh and other friendly Asian countries about the future secretary

general of the Islamic Conference Organization. Radio Pakistan's special representative says the aim of intensive consultations is to arrive at an amicable solution for the post of the Islamic Conference secretary general.

The foreign ministers of Guinea, Mali, and Morocco, during their meetings with Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, assured support for Pakistan's candidature for the secretary general post.

Libya-Pakistan Talks

LD091129 Tripoli JANA in English 0952 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Tripoli, Rabi al Awal 4, Dec 9, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, the secretary of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison Bureau, met with Pakistan's Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Ali Khan, in Dhakha. During the meeting bilateral relations in all fields between the two countries, were discussed.

Moroccan Minister-Ershad

LD091421 Rabat MAP in English 1200 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Dhaka, Dec 9 (MAP) — Moroccan minister of foreign affairs, Dr. Abdelouahid Belkeziz was received here Thursday [8 December] by General Mohammad Hussain Ershad, president of the Council of Ministers and martial law administrator of Bangladesh.

During the meeting held parallel to the works of the 14th conference of Islamic foreign affairs ministers, being held in Dhaka, General Ershad praised efforts made by King Hassan II of Morocco for the defense and the triumph of Islamic causes and for the strengthening of solidarity and cooperation among Islamic countries.

Speaking about the mission of the Al-Quds (Jerusalem) Committee chaired by King Hassan II (Bangladesh being member of the committee), General Ershad recalled the considerable efforts stepped up by the committee whose meetings, he said, paved the way for Islamic solidarity, for the liberation of Al-Quds ash-Sharif and for the safeguard of the Arab-Islamic character of the holy city.

On the other hand, the Moroccan foreign minister held here Wednesday and Thursday a series of contacts with the leaders of the delegations to the conference.

Thus, Dr. Belkeziz met with the foreign affairs ministers of the Niger, Guinea, North Yemen, the Maldive Islands and the head of the Lebanese delegation.

Talks focused on the different topics on the conference agenda and on means to strengthen Islamic solidarity.

Ershad Presides Over Council of Ministers Meeting

BK121256 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] The first meeting of the president's Council of Ministers was held at the Bangabhavan in Dhaka today. President Lieutenant General H.M. Ershad presided. All the Cabinet ministers were present.

Judges of the Supreme Court also met the president and chief martial law administrator at Bangabhavan today. They stayed with the president for some time. Foreign correspondents, now in the capital after covering the 14th Islamic conference of foreign ministers, had an informal meeting with Gen Ershad at Bangabhavan this morning. They stayed with the president for some time and had tea with him.

Delhi Cites Ershad Remarks on Political Activity

BK121419 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] In Bangladesh, Lieutenant General Ershad, who took over as president of the country yesterday, has said that he would not lift martial law until elections are held. He told newsmen in Dhaka that no decision has been taken to change the dates of polls scheduled for next year.

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA quoting Radio Bangladesh says that the ban on political activities in the country has been lifted.

As already reported, about 70 political detenees have been released. They include the leader of the Awami League, Sheikh Hasina Wajed, and Begum Khalida Zia, widow of the assassinated President Ziaur Rahman. There is no word yet about the release of 400 political prisoners and the reopening of the four universities which were closed following antimartial law demonstrations at the end of last month.

Leaders Welcome Bulgaria's Zhivkov

BK120923 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] The president of Bulgaria, Mr Todor Zhivkov, arrived in New Delhi today on a 4-day state visit. He was given a warm welcome at the airport by the president, Giani Zail Singh; the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi; and other leaders.

After a ceremonial welcome, Mr Zhivkov inspected a guard of honor presented by the three services. Speaking at the airport, Mr Zhivkov said the relations between Bulgaria and India are very good and the prospects of their development are even better. He expressed the hope that the talks with the Indian leaders will further advance the cooperation between the two countries. He said in the face of a danger of a nuclear war their efforts to safeguard peace and consolidate international understanding will bring them closer to each other.

Welcoming him, the president, Giani Zail Singh, said the relations between India and Bulgaria are marked with warmth and cordiality and are growing steadily. He expressed the hope that Mr Zhivkov's visit will further strengthen the friendly relations.

BTA Report

AU121420 Sofia BTA in English 1107 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] New Delhi, Dec 12 (BTA spec corr Nencho Khranov and corr Lyubomir Kasavetov) — Mr Todor Zhivkov, president of the State Council, arrived in the Indian capital today on an official visit at the invitation of the president, Mr Singh, and the prime minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi. He is accompanied by Mr Petur Mladenov, minister of foreign affairs, Mr Khristo Khristov, minister of foreign trade, chairman of the Bulgarian side of the joint Bulgaro-Indian economic and technoscientific cooperation commission, and Mr Simeon Pruvchanov, assistant to the President of the State Council.

This third visit of the Bulgarian Head of State in friendly India is a continuation of the summit dialogue which has already become traditional. The meetings of the two countries' leaders give a mighty impetus to the development of Bulgaro-Indian relations, open up new prospects to their deepening, serve the cause of peace and international cooperation. The current visit of Mr Todor Zhivkov's to India is also devoted to these sublime goals.

To welcome the top leader of Bulgaria, the following came to "Palam" airport: India's President Mr Zail Singh, Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi, members of the government, deputies, public figures, heads and members of diplomatic missions accredited to the Indian capital.

India's President Mr Singh addressed his Bulgarian guest with a greeting. On his turn Mr Todor Zhivkov also presented a speech.

The procession of cars headed for the center of Delhi. The whole 20-kilometre road passing through the capital's main boulevards was decorated with Bulgarian and Indian flags and Mr Todor Zhivkov's portraits. Thousands of people had come out in the streets to warmly congratulate the envoys of friendly Bulgaria, to express their friendly feelings towards this country, far and near to them, their respect for her top leader. Huge placards read: "Long live Bulgaro-Indian Friendship," "Welcome, Bulgarian friends, welcome, President Todor Zhivkov."

The president of the State Council of Bulgaria, accompanied by President Zail Singh, arrived at the "Rashtrapati Bhavan" presidential palace where Mr Todor Zhivkov's official residence during the stay in Delhi will be. A brief friendly talk was also held here between the two state leaders.

Exchange of Greetings

AU121422 Sofia BTA in English 1342 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Delhi, December 12 (BTA) — Mr Zail Singh, president of India, and Mr Todor Zhivkov, president of the State Council of Bulgaria, delivered greetings speeches upon Mr Todor Zhivkov's arrival in India.

"The visit of Mr Todor Zhivkov is a continuation of the good tradition of maintaining contacts and exchanging top-level visits, which brought our two countries closer together," said Mr Zail Singh. He underlined that the relations between India and Bulgaria have been always remarkable for their warmth and cordiality and for their steady development.

"We have identical views on the important international issues," Mr Singh added. Undoubtedly our talks here will lead to making the friendship between our two countries stronger, said he.

"The relations of Bulgaria and India are very good, while the prospects for their development are still better. I am confident that the forthcoming talks will assist the further upsurge of the mutually advantageous cooperation between our two countries and peoples," said Mr Todor Zhivkov.

He underlined that now, in the face of the threat of a destructive thermonuclear war, the efforts for the preservation of peace and for strengthening international understanding are overcoming all distances and are bringing the people and our peoples closer together.

"We, the leaders of our states, expressing the striving and the will of our peoples for peace, friendship and cooperation, can contribute to the success and the deeply humane struggle aimed at preventing a devastating war. We are meeting and talking in the name of peace, of the good, of the happiness of all people," said he.

Talks Held With Bulgarian Foreign Trade Minister

BK101445 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] India and Bulgaria are to increase collaboration in the fields of electronics, machine building, light industry, agriculture, and further improve trade. This follows discussions between the visiting Bulgarian foreign trade minister, Mr Khristo Khris-

tov, and the commerce minister, Mr Vishwanath Pratap Singh, in New Delhi today. Mr Khristov has come to India to attend the Indo-Bulgarian Joint Commission meeting of which he is cochairman.

Gandhi Urges Resumption of Disarmament Talks
BK120929 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] The prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, has called for the resumption of a dialogue on disarmament without delay. In an interview with the BULGARIAN TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY, BTA, she said a lack of purposeful dialogue for the limitation and reduction of armaments among the most powerful nations is responsible for an atmosphere of mistrust and the growing threat of a war.

Gandhi Addresses Nonaligned Media Conference
BK091400 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] The prime minister has called for democratization of the information order and urged the nonaligned countries to work for self-reliance in communication technology. Mrs Gandhi was delivering the theme address at the media conference of nonaligned nations which began in New Delhi this evening. The 4-day conference, which is the first of its kind, was inaugurated by the director general of UNESCO, Dr M'bow.

The prime minister reiterated India's firm support to the concept of a new world information order. She said it should strengthen individuals and promote greater social equality between groups and nations.

She accused the multinational Western media of deliberately distorting events in developing countries and attempting to create problems in their societies. She called for a multidimensional flow of information throughout the world, saying that communication must open minds so that people cooperate in facing various challenges.

French Minister Arrives, Meets With Gandhi
BK121633 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] The French minister for industry and research, Mr Laurent Fabius, called on the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, in New Delhi today. During his 30-minute meeting with her, he conveyed to Mrs Gandhi a message from President Mitterrand. They also briefly discussed cooperation in the economic field.

Mr Fabius arrived in the capital today on a 7-day official visit.

SRI LANKA

Jayewardene Addresses Party on Ethnic Problem

BK111605 Hong Kong AFP in English 0903 GMT 11 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Colombo, Dec 11 (AFP) — President Junius Jayewardene has said that he intends to bring about a lasting solution to Sri Lanka's ethnic problem without affecting the interests of any community.

Addressing the annual sessions of the ruling United National Party yesterday, Mr. Jayewardene said that an all-party conference would be summoned shortly to discuss proposals for solving the ethnic question. The solutions would then be canvassed before the government parliamentary group, the Cabinet, and perhaps before the people at a national referendum.

The ethnic problem between Sri Lanka's majority Sinhalese and minority Tamils led to anti-Tamil riots last July in which at least 371 people died.

The president said that the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), which seeks to establish an independent Tamil state, did not represent the entire Tamil population. He pointed out that he had a right to speak on behalf of the minority group since more Tamils voted for his party than for the TULF.

TULF Leader Says Party 'Ready To Face Elections'

BK101645 Colombo DAILY NEWS in English 3 Dec 83 p 1

[By B.H.S. Jayewardene]

[Text] The Tamil United Liberation Front [TULF] is ready to face elections in the north and east on a platform of the ethnic solutions reached by consensus at the all-party conference proposed by President Jayewardene, Mr. Appapillai Amirthalingam, leader of the TULF, told the *DAILY NEWS* in New Delhi after the final round of talks between President Jayewardene and Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

He said the TULF was always ready to shift from its stance of separation, which it adopted at the July 1977 general elections, as soon as a viable solution, they could recommend to the Tamils of Sri Lanka, was ready. He could even get the militant Tamil groups to accept such an alternative.

He said they had been elected in July 1977 with a mandate for separation. If they had a viable alternative which they could recommend to their electorate they were prepared to seek a fresh mandate. If not it would appear they had betrayed the people who had betrayed the people who had voted for them.

"We have a responsibility by them and we cannot let them down," he added.

He was hopeful that the all-party talks would provide them such a viable alternative. They were conscious that if they were to attend the conference they would have to give up their eelam cry. They had now forfeited their seats in Parliament, at the District Development Councils and other local bodies. They were free to face new elections and seek a fresh mandate on a new platform.

Mr. Amirthalingam said that a great deal of ground had been covered at the New Delhi parleys. Many of the basic differences which had prevailed towards arriving at a negotiated settlement had been straightened out through the diplomacy of Mr. G. Parthasarathy. There were a few matters in particular which concerned the TULF leadership still left to be satisfactorily resolved. One was the security of the Tamil people and the other was the integrity of Tamil areas.

The question of a single unit for the Tamil areas under the proposed regional council's scheme and the extent of the authority in security matters to be given to these Councils were also still to be ironed out. While the TULF is prepared to exclude Amparai from the "Tamil areas" envisaged by them Mr. Amirthalingam said it would be difficult for them to exclude Batticaloa as well because it was also a predominantly Tamil area.

Mr. Amirthalingam was confident that he would be able to get the support of the militant Tamils to any viable alternative to eelam which the TULF considers reasonable and could recommend to their electorate.

He had already had discussions with some of the militant leaders in India who had agreed to such a move.

Amirthalingam: TULF Not Yet Invited to Talks

BK120945 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] The secretary general of the Tamil United Liberation Front [TULF] in Sri Lanka, Mr Amirthalingam, has said that his party has not received any official invitation from the president, Mr Jayewardene, to participate in the proposed all party conference. He was commenting in Tiruchirappalli today on the newspaper report that the TULF will be invited to the proposed talks.

He said as soon as the invitation is received the policy of his party will be convened in Madras to discuss the matter.

Antiterrorist Forces To Be Given Wide Powers

BK091216 Colombo SUN in English 1 Dec 83 p 1

[By Lalith Allahakoon]

[Text] Security Forces involved in antiterrorist activities are to be provided with wide police powers under the normal law of the country.

Goverament has decided to amend the Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act. No. 48 of 1979 in order to give legal effect to this.

Necessary amendments will be effected to article 6 of the act which stipulates rules and regulations with regard to the investigation of offences.

Under the new provisions, the Armed Forces will be empowered to arrest any person, enter and search any premises, stop and search any individual or any vehicle, vessel, train or aircraft or seize any document or thing connected with or concerned in, or reasonably suspected of being connected with or concerned in any unlawful activity.

Currently only Police officers not below the rank of superintendent or any other police officer not below the rank of sub-inspector authorised in writing by him on that behalf may without a warrant carry out these operations.

These new amendments will also spell out legal immunity to the security forces involved in anti-terrorist activities.

According to the new law, members of security forces will not be handed over to judicial custody when arrested in connection with alleged offences while on duty.

However this will not affect the judicial procedure which will take its normal course, but at no stage of the proceedings will the trial judge be empowered to remand such persons since the new amendment will supersede the existing law.

Another significant feature in these amendments is the suspension of magisterial enquiries into the deaths of persons who are killed during security operations.

The new procedure would be to hold a medical inspection by the judicial medical officer in charge of the area in lieu of the magisterial inqurity when deaths of this nature occur. The judicial medical officer on completion of the duties cast on line should submit a report for the perusal of the Attorney General.

Thereafter, the Attorney General would determine whether to hold a further inquiry or not.

Briefs

Saudi Irrigation Aid — Cabinet has approved the terms of an agreement between the government and the Saudi fund for development for a loan of 85 million Saudi riyal, equivalent to approximately 600 million rupees. It is for downstream development of System B of the left bank of the Mahaweli project. This system aims to irrigate 58,000 acres on the left bank of the Maduru Oya. [Excerpt] [Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 8 Dec 83 BK]

Finnish Aid Increase — The Finnish Government is to increase its aid allocations to Sri Lanka. 50 million Finnish marks, equivalent to 225 million rupees, will be allocated each year for the next 3 years. This was announced by an aid delegation from Finland, which met Minister of Finance and Planning Ronnie de Mel at his ministry in Colombo yesterday. [Excerpt] [Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 7 Dec 83 BK]

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,571
LD121753 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Communique No 1,571 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. During the past 24 hours,the exchange of artillery and heavy weapons fire continued between our victorious fighters and the aggressive Iraqi mercenaries in most Piranshah and Sar Dasht fronts. The fighters of Islam, enjoying complete control of the area under their protection, opened fire on enemy positions, destroying one of their bases and inflicting about 50 percent damage on another base. They also destroyed one Iraqi engineering lorry and damaged a number of enemy vehicles. They also set fire to a 107-mm missile launcher, killing more than 20 Saddamist mercenaries.

On the Marivan fronts, the fighters of Islam brought most enemy positions under fire and controlled enemy supply routes. They controlled enemy movements with artillery fire and destroyed a number of trenches, foxholes, and observation posts of Saddam's mercenaries, killing or wounding a number of their crew.

In Bakhtaran, Ilam, and the southern fronts, the exchange of sporadic fire continued between our forces and the enemy; our fighters continued to fortify their defensive positions and to reply to the fire of the Saddamists. By setting up observation posts, watching enemy movements, and sending patrol groups, they controlled enemy activities and inflicted considerable damage upon the positions of the infantry, tank, and artillery units of Saddam's forces. In each of those fronts, they killed or wounded a number of enemy personnel.

On the Arvand Rud front, the heroic, self-sacrificing forces of Islam opened reciprocal fire over enemy positions and fortificiations, silencing their fire and setting fire to and destroying more than seven light and heavy ammunition bunkers of the Iraqi forces.

Abadan again yesterday came under enemy long-range artillery fire, as the result of which some installations of the city were damaged.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Musavi-Ardabili on Iraq War, Oil Price
LD091606 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili, Tehran's provisional Friday imam, referred to the war imposed on Iran by the Iraqi Zionist regime in his second prayer sermon.

[Begin Musavi-Ardabili recording] The ministers from 19 Arab countries who gathered in Baghdad graciously issued a resolution which said: Aggression against an Arab country is tantamount to aggression against all! I very much doubt that even a single person was either pleased with or frightened by this sentence. Neither would anyone pay attention to it. It is utterly disgraceful, because everyone knows it to be a lie. These people said: Aggression against an Arab country is tantamount to aggression against all. In God's name, Lebanon itself is a valid case. Let us see whether Lebanon is an Arab country? It is. Has aggression been committed against it? It has. Then aggression has been committed against all Arabs. All these states, all these governments have been subjected to aggression. What are they doing about it? In the case of this naked aggression, they have left Syria alone on the battlefield.

During these attacks, Syria, with the utmost valor, has shot down eight aircraft. These people left Syria alone on the battlefield. So — thanks be to God — we understand the meaning of aggression against Arab countries. It means they sit doing nothing, they see the aggressor and pat him on the back. However, should anyone come along and resist the aggressor, they leave him alone! See for yourselves. A man comes along, utters a remark, and this is the result. These people now say: "No, we did not mean all Arab countries. What we meant was Iraq, and when we say the aggressor, we mean Iran has committed aggresion against all."

Everyone knows that Iran has not committed aggression. Aggression has been inflicted on Iran. And aggression continues to be committed. When has Iran bombarded civilian areas? When has it bombarded heavily populated urban regions with 9 to 12 meter bombs? [as heard] Who has buried pregnant women, old men, sick people under rubble?

I believe it would be better had they issued the following resolution: Should an Arab country commit aggression against another country we will give ourselves a free hand to commit aggression against that country en masse — as they have done. One provides arms, another delivers ships, one safeguards aircraft, another places his finger on the trigger, and yet another provides troops. Their statement: "Aggression against one country is tantamount to aggression against us" is wrong. What these people should say is: "Should we see an Islamic country, one that has carried out a revolution, a meek nation, to be the subject of aggression by one of us, with sharp teeth of avarice, we would side by side all commit aggression. But I tell these people what Imam 'Ali's riposte would be: By God's name, if they were all to stand together in closed ranks, they would not make the least effect on Iran's revolutionary nation! [cheers]

You say you are telling the truth, but you have told so many lies. At least tell the truth once. It is not necessary for you, when faced by an aggressor, to say: We cannot carry out military actions against complex weponry. You should listen to the behest of our imam whose words we have heeded. We have thereby risen from helotry to the zenith of grandeur. Listen to his guidance and shut off the oil taps for 10 days. Test this and see what would happens. The imam has graciously commanded: If you were to shut off your oil from these people for 10 days they would surrender to you. The masters would turn into serfs. These people who are acting as your overlords would become your abject supplicants. Come, test this for yourselves, so that people will know you are telling the truth.

They have begun a war against us. They have opened a front: an oil war when a military war was not successful, when weapons were of no avail.

Now they want to destroy OPEC. They want to lower the price of oil in order to deal a blow to Iran, to deal a blow to their own nations. I tell them: Iran — as was declared by our dear brother His Excellency Hashemi-Rafsanjani during previous Friday prayers — will not retreat a single step from its position! [loud cheers] Iran's demand — as was said by our minister, our dear representative — is that the bench price should remain at $34 per barrel. And we are not prepared to tolerate the least loss of our rights with regard to the appointment of the OPEC secretary general. Is the proper way to deal with things for you to open the taps, to open the pipelines, to fill the tanks with oil, and then say: The market cannot tolerate an increase. If we were to ask more than $29, no one would buy from us! Supply less. Deliver less. If you were to confine yourselves to 17.5 million barrels per day and if you were not to fill the market further by trickery and treachery, you would see for yourselves whether they would buy oil from you. You daily lower the price of oil, but can one say that the commodities you purchase are also getting lower in price? What manner of transaction is it when the other party sells his commodity at a high price while purchasing yours at a lower price. It is a war against the meek nations and against Iran in particular, to rob it of its wealth, its economic independence, to rob it of its political independence, and to then deal a blow at and harm Iran's revolution.

But we will not permit this to happen. We are awaiting all nations which are alive, the meek included, to halt this trangression being perpetrated against their God-given riches. [end recording]

Majlis Speaker Urges Kurds To Ward Off Plots

GF091651 Tehran IRNA in English 1620 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Tehran, Dec 9, IRNA — While the enemies of Islam have not winced at any crime, including sabotage and espionage, the people of Kordestan will have to play an increasingly vital role in maintaining peace and order in the area and defending it against the plots of superpowers, said Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani in an address to high executive officials of West Azarbayjan and Kordestan provinces here Thursday.

He further noted that the situation in Kordestan at the initial stages of the victory of the revolution did not make life easy and secure for the committed and faithful people of the Islamic Republic. The anti-revolutionaries aimed at forming an autonomous state in Kordestan and declared oil of Khuzestan province should be used to Kordestan. [as received]

Continuing his address, the Majlis speaker said that the Soviets also wished to gain access to the Persian Gulf waters by using Kordestan as a corridor for their advance. On the other hand the Iraqi regime was blowing up the issue of the Iranian Arab population in Khuzestan Province.

The Majlis speaker while commending the self-sacrificing acts of the Islamic combatants said that the anti-revolutionary element in the province has been disappointed.

Majlis speaker pointed to the efforts of the counter-revolutionaries in sowing discord between Shi'as and Sunnis and said this should be staunchly encountered and that nobody should be given the chance to exploit religious disagreements.

He said that also the level of education in these regions should be upgraded.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani on Superpowers in Lebanon

LD121318 Tehran IRNA in English 1015 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Tehran, Dec 12 IRNA — Majlis Speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani Sunday said that "the presence of the superpowers in Lebanon is for the help to (Iraqi President) Saddam and the Zionist regime."

He said all superpowers plots being hatched against Lebanon were to make the Zionist regime and Baghdad regime strong.

Rafsanjani said that all these pro-Iraq and pro-Zionist regime actions of the superpowers in Lebanon meant to give hand to Iraq in its imposed war against Iran.

These helps by the superpowers started following the defeat of the Iraqi regime after the liberation of Khorramshah by the Islamic combatants in May 1982.

He was addressing a group of physicians and health care officials from the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps.

Rafsanjani said, "they (superpowers) cannot use Lebanon for saving Saddam because that country is also like Iran for them."

Elaborating his point he said, "the superpowers started imposed war to suppress the Iranian revolution...but the revolution became stronger...in the same way all plots against Lebanon went against the superpowers themselves...."

Rafsanjani said, "it's interesting to note that the Lebanese are giving the same response to the superpowers what they received from the Iranians.

Referring to the 30-year-old history of the occupation of Palestine and silence of the Arab heads of state Rafsanjani said, "here the superpowers were mistaken and they should note that now in the presence of the Islamic revolution which is supported by the people they cannot do what they had been doing during the last 30 years."

He said that now the U.S., French, British, and Italian forces were trapped in Lebanon, adding: "If these forces leave Lebanon their prestige goes...if they stay there they have to lose their experts everyday...

Recalling various casualties and incidents these foreign powers had to face during the struggles of the Lebanese Muslims he said, "the U.S. lost 240 best trained personnel, spies and military experts and France lost 70 of its best troops.

He said these forces were now talking for taking revenge but they have lost 48 of their modern fighter planes.

Rafsanjani said that revengeful attitude and actions of these forces made them the most disgraceful in the eyes of the Lebanese and now they are considered as confirmed invaders to that country.

Commenting on the present situation of Iran he said, "Iran was never so powerful as it is today."

Rafsanjani said, "in war our strategy is that the minimum loss of the lives of the Iranian and Iraqi forces with maximum benefits of all the operations.

Ambassador in Algiers Receives Palestinians
LD111037 Tehran IRNA in English 0940 GMT 11 Dec 83

[Text] Algiers, Dec 11 (IRNA) — A group of Palestinians who were recently released from a prison of the Zionist regime, Saturday, called on Iranian ambassador in Algeria, Mohammad Mahdi Karrani and expressed their support for the Islamic Revolution of Iran. The Muslim Palestinians were released by the Zionist regime from "Al-Ansar" prison camp, in southern Lebanon, where they were kept and faced torture and other hardships by the occupying forces of the Zionist regime.

The Muslim Palestinians paid glowing tribute to the leader of the Islamic Revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Imam Khomeyni and said, "Islam is being revived and solidarity created among Muslim ummah under the leadership of Imam Khomeyni."

The Palestinians who were released by the Zionist regime after a long struggle of the world freedom fighters went to Algeria on Nov 24.

Free Voice of Iran on Kuwait Explosions
GF121734 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Excerpts] Ayatollah Khomeyni's coup d'etat in Kuwait has been defeated. The coupists attempted to occupy Kuwait airport this morning and to station themselves in the control tower and the surrounding roads. They also hit such sensitive points as the electricity distribution department and the Kuwait petroleum storage complex and destroyed them by detonating bombs.

Minutes after this onslaught of 18 [as heard] big and small bombs in six important industrial and political centers, Kuwaiti army and security forces were posted in all sensitive centers and took control of the situation. Within minutes, the Kuwaiti Cabinet and majlis convened two separate emergency meetings and Kuwait radio which had interrupted its normal programming invited people to listen to the government announcement.

This announcement said that the security forces had arrested a group of saboteurs and had unearthed their meeting places. This announcement refrained from elaborating on the occurrence of the coup d'etat in Kuwait but asked the people to keep tuned to the government radio and to ignore rumors or (?unconfirmed) reports.

Within minutes of the announcement by the Kuwaiti Cabinet, which announced the foiling of the operations, an unidentified individual telephoned the AFP office in Beirut and informed him that the Islamic Jihad Organization had initiated the explosions in Kuwait today and assumed responsibility for them. This terrorist organization is under the aegis of Khomeyni and has so far assumed responsibility for many major and minor explosions in Beirut and Lebanon.

The Free Voice of Iran correspondent in Kuwait says in his report: Today six major explosions shook Kuwait. He adds: Immediately after the resounding explosions which shook the whole city, security officials spilled into the streets and the sound of sirens from ambulances, police cars, and fire brigade vehicles filled the air. Police patrol cars were busy clearing blocked routes especially the Kuwait airport highway.

The latest report from our correspondent reaching our clandestine transmitter at the Free Voice of Iran center says that while the quest for the identification and arrest of the agents of today's explosions in Kuwait continues, an automobile containing incendiary material was discovered in the vicinity of the Kuwait immigration department building, which apparently was abandoned by the arsonists when they fled following the foiling of their attack bid.

Dhaka Islamic Conference Resolutions Criticized
GF121340 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The Islamic foreign ministers conference in Dhaka discussed important problems facing the Islamic world. Among them were the aggression being carried out in Lebanon by occupationist Israel and its imperialist helpers, foremost of which is the United States, the disputes among the Lebanese factions, the imposed war of the Ba'thists on the Iranian Republic, the occupation of Afghanistan, and the problem of the Turkish Cypriots. The conference also discussed the Muslim problem in the southern Philippines, the struggles of the Eritrean people and of the people of the Sahara against the regimes in [word indistinct] and Morocco, apartheid in South Africa, and the social, economic, and political problems in the Islamic countries, and aid to developing members of the conference.

It is true that a conference seating at one table representatives of all Islamic countries has been a cherished objective of Muslims worldwide. However, due to the adherence of a number of reactionary governments in certain Islamic countries to world imperialism, the conferences of the Islamic countries so far have failed to achieve notable results in their confrontation with the superpowers and their pressure on Muslims worldwide. The 14th conference of the Isamic foreign ministers, at which 44 countries were represented, like conferences before it, achieved no notice

able results concerning the evil designs of world imperialism against the Muslim world.

However, the success of the Islamic Revolution in Iran and Iran's participation in the Islamic conferences has indeed caused notable changes in the attitude of these conferences. In this connection, our delegations to these conferences has stressed the adoption of Islamic rules and Koranic regulations. The Iranian confrontation and the problems facing the Islamic world have been a surprise to the Islamic conference because these conferences, instead of adopting Islamic methods to achieve deliverance of the world Muslims, have been following the diplomatic practices so popular with the world imperialists.

Hence, the Islamic conferences during the past 14 years instead of solving many of the problems facing the Islamic world and ending the interference of the world imperialists in Islamic countries, have only confined themselves to issuing resolutions condemning the enemies of Islam.

In this conference, the issue of the aggression of the Ba'thist-Zionist regime of Saddam against the Islamic Republic also came up for discussion. Several heads of the delegations from the Islamic countries in stereotyped speeches expressed concern over the continued war and suggested ending the imposed war. They did not act justly as enjoined by the Koran or call for a stop to the aggressions by the mercenary regimes against the world Muslims. They did not bother to condemn the country which initiated the war and bombed our towns. Instead they confined themselves to cliches only. Such opportunism is only appreciated by and is used in the imperialist news media, because these circles, with the help of the news media of the reactionary regimes, malign the Islamic Republic before the world people and people of the region so that the savage deeds of the Zionist regime are buried under news reports.

It should be mentioned here that Mr Velayati after making a very important speech at the opening session returned to Tehran last Thursday. Upon his arrival, Mr Velayati said that the reactionary states attending the Dhaka conference had confined their efforts to issuing only a resolution regarding the war and the Iranian Republic, although it had much earlier announced that every move for resolving this dispute should be just and should keep in mind our position and rights as well as the numerous crimes of the Iraqi regime against the Iranian people. Therefore, the resolutions adopted have little value in our eyes and will never be accepted by us.

NVOI Cites Feda'iyan-e Khalq Statement

TA092044 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Report on statement issued by Feda'iyan-e Khalq Organization Central Committee — Majority — date, place not given]

[Text] Dear compatriots: The Central Committee of Feda'iyan-e Khalq Organization of Iran — Majority — in a recently detailed statement entitled "Suppression of Iranian Tudeh Party Is Suppression of Right and Justice, Suppression of Independence and Freedom," congratulated the Iranian Tudeh Party on the 42d anniversary of its establishment. In view of the historical importance of this statement, we now bring to the attention of our dear compatriots significant portions of this statement.

At the start, by affirming the indisputable principle that one can lie to history but that history does not lie, the statement reviews the proud history of the Iranian Tudeh Party since its founding and up to the present and recounts the history of this party's struggles to ensure the revolution's victory and the liberation of Iranian workers and toilers, to achieve a progressive land program, to maintain political freedoms and democratic rights, to mount a principled defense of the revolution and its gains, particularly the Constitution, and to expose the plots of imperialism and of new and old colonialism. The statement rightly points out that whether after February 1949, or after August 1953, as well as today, suppression of the Iranian Tudeh Party by reaction was an inevitable prelude to suppression of Iran's independence and freedom-seeking movement and a prelude to an onslaught against other national and progressive organizations.

Referring to the Iranian Government's insidious and brutal assault on the Iranian Tudeh Party and to the announcement that any Tudeh member showing persistence and steadfastness in his beliefs will be brought before the firing squad, the statement by the Central Committee of the Feda'iyan-e Khalq Organization — Majority — raises the question as to why, similar to the American coupists of 19 August, the Islamic Republic Government has adopted the path of humiliating and discrediting half a century of struggle and heroism by workers and toilers — the most consistent Iranian patriots — for achieving independence, freedom, justice, and social progress. Why?

The Central Committee of the Feda'iyan-e Khalq Organization — Majority — explains: The fact is that the Iranian Government has opened the country's gates to imperialist monopolies. Not only has it been agreed that Iran's markets will again become the monopoly of imperialist goods, but scores of unequal agreements have been prepared with Japanese, German, and British imperialists, even with U.S. monopolies behind closed doors, that will consolidate the country's economic dependence and will pave the way in every aspect for the unrestricted plunder of the country's national resources by them.

Despite the demand of the Iranian and Iraqi people, the Iranian Government has adopted a policy of prolonging the war with the aim of establishing an Islamic republic in Iraq and is exploiting the war as a lever for consolidating economic, political, and even military dependence on the imperialists. In the United States alone, 10 companies are dealing with the Islamic Republic of Iran for the sale of weapons and spare parts for unserviceable armaments. In these deals, billions of dollars from the nation's wealth are poured into the pockets of Iranian, American, British, and Israeli middlemen.

The fact is that for some time now the nation's rights and the political freedoms stipulated in the Constitution have been totally suspended. Political organizations struggling for the implementation of the Constitution's popular and progressive principles not only do not have the possibility of open activity but are suppressed. Labor activists, particularly, are willfully dismissed

from factories. Most labor syndicates and about 3/4 of labor councils have been disbanded; the remainder has been deterred from any independent labor activity.

Searches and intimidation, constant persecution, unlawfulness and ruffian-like willfullness, and violation of personal and social rights under the guise of implementing Islamic decrees have enveloped society in fear and insecurity. Judicial and job security have been taken from all those who view the current trends with criticism. Presently, to promote its policies, the regime does not rely on the power of the million-strong masses but on the power of coercion, armed organs, and suppression.

The fact is that the Islamic Republic of Iran has turned away from the main owners of the revolution — workers and farmers, the oppressed, the bare-footed, the slum dwellers, the inhabitants of south Tehran — by whose callused hands the revolution blossomed, and now is defending plunder and capitalism and is more than ever taking steps toward gaining the support of the bazaar and the "respected" merchants.

Addressing the heroic people, workers, and toilers, the statement by the Central Committee of the Feda'iyan-e Khalq Organization of Iran — Majority — states: Every aware Iranian worker knows that "Death to Tudeh" means "Long live capitalism." Every aware toiling Iranian farmer knows that "Death to Tudeh" means "Long live large landownership." And every Iranian patriot knows that "Death to Tudeh" means "Death to right and justice, death to independence and freedom."

A government that has turned away from the revolution, the people, and their aspirations — independence, freedom, and social justice — naturally cannot talk with the Tudeh, other defenders of the revolution, and the people except with the language of the prison, torture, and execution and cannot indulge in falsehood and fabrication except with the language of slander and accusation. They present leaders of the Iranian Tudeh Party as traitors to hide their own treason to the people and revolution. They present leaders of the Tudeh Party as Soviet spies to conceal their own disgrace over delivering the country's resources and national interests to the plundering imperialists.

In its statement, the Central Committee of the Feda'iyan-e Khalq Organization of Iran — Majority — regards as invalid the willful and illegal decision by the country's judical authorities to dissolve the Iranian Tudeh Party and calls on all the people of Iran and the world, on all workers and toilers, and on all forces defending the revolution to arise against these crimes committed in our country by mobilizing public opinion throughout the country and the world and through a wave of protest by the masses, with the aim of forcing the government to agree to the just demand of the people for the dispatch of a neutral international delegation of observers and for the open trial of the arrested leaders and members of the party in the presence of this delegation, the representatives of news agencies, and Iranian and world press as well as the people in the country's competent courts.

In conclusion, the statement by the Central Committee of the Feda'iyan-e Khalq of Iran — Majority — states: The Iranian Tudeh Party is the party of the Iranian working class and of its victorious banner — the banner of the revolution's victory and liberation of Iranian workers and toilers. May the triumphant banner of the Iranian Tudeh Party flutter above the homeland! Heroic Iranian people, workers and toilers, anti-imperialist, popular, and progressive forces of the homeland, join the ranks of the Iranian Tudeh Party and the Feda'iyan-e Khalq Organization — Majority. Let us unite! Let us arise in defense of the revolution!

These were significant portions of the statement by the Feda'iyan-e Khalq Organization of Iran — Majority.

Ground Forces Seek Volunteers for Communications

GF121416 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] The communication training center of the Ground Forces of the army of the Islamic Republic of Iran has announced that to fill its ranks of NCO communication technicians it will be employing faithful youths who believe in the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The volunteers must be at least 17 and at most 25 years old with a minimum of grade three high school certificate. Their mental and physical health should be perfect and will be checked by the health department of the army.

Volunteers may contact the center for communication and electronics at Tehran, Lavizan, daily excluding holidays. Further information can be obtained by calling 286032 or 286112.

Guardians Council Approves Ministry Bill

GF091636 Tehran IRNA in English 1550 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 9, IRNA — The Council of Guardians announced Thursday that the bill for making the Construction Jihad a ministry, which was passed by the Majlis on November 28, is in compliance with the constitution of the Islamic Republic and Islamic law. The bill will now be sent to the cabinet for final approval.

The council also approved the bill passed by the Majlis for women who want to work only half of the regular workshift in a government office.

Correction to Foreign Ministry Denial

The following correction pertains to the item headlined, "Ministry Denies Iraq Destroyed Naval Targets," published in the 9 December South Asia *DAILY REPORT* on page I 1:

First paragraph, line one reads: ". . . Republic of Iran early today categorically denied an . . . ." (supplying indistinct word; confirming "today")